

**COUNTY COUNCIL  
OF  
HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND**

**Bill No. 04-03**

Introduced by: Council Member Guthrie

Legislative Day No. 04-3 Date: January 20, 2004

AN ACT to repeal and reenact, with amendments, Subsection B, of Section 256-12, Connection charges, of Article I, General Provisions, to add new Section 256-12.1, Capital charges for fire stations or substations, to Article I, General Provisions,” and to repeal and reenact, with amendments, Subsection A, of Section 256-44, Connection charges, of Article V, Capital charges, all of Chapter 256, Water and Sewers, of the Harford County Code; as amended; to provide an exemption from connection charges related to water and sewer for the Harford County Volunteer Fire and Ambulance companies; and generally relating to connection charges.

By the Council, January 20, 2004

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled

on: February 17, 2004

at: 7:00 p.m.

By order: Barbara J. Ruth, Council Administrator

PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on February 17, 2004, and concluded on February 17, 2004.

Barbara J. Ruth, Council Administrator

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [BRACKETS] indicate matter Deleted from existing law. Underlining indicates Language added to bill by amendment. Language Lined through indicates matter stricken out of Bill By amendment.

**Bill No. 04-03**

**As Amended**

1 Section 1. Be It Enacted By the County Council of Harford County, Maryland, That  
2 Subsection B, of Section 256-12, Connection Charges, of Article I, General Provisions,  
3 be, and it is hereby, repealed and reenacted with amendments, that new Section 256-  
4 12.1., Capital charges for fire stations or substations, be, and it is hereby, added to Article  
5 I, General Provisions, and that ~~and~~ Subsection A, of Section 256-44, Connection  
6 Charges, of Article V, Capital Charges, be, and it is hereby, repealed and reenacted with  
7 amendments, all of Chapter 256, Water and Sewers, ~~be, and they are hereby, repealed and~~  
8 ~~reenacted with amendments,~~ of the Harford County Code, as amended to read as follows:

9 Chapter 256. Water and Sewers.

10 Article I. General Provisions.

11 Section 256-12. Connection charges.

12 B. ~~EXCEPT FOR PROPERTY OR AN IMPROVEMENT THAT SERVES AS A~~  
13 ~~SITE OF A FIRE STATION OR SUBSTATION AND IS OWNED BY A HARFORD~~  
14 ~~COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND AMBULANCE COMPANY, CONNECTION~~

15 {Connection} charges shall be levied against each property or each improvement  
16 connecting to the county's water and/or sewer system in accordance with the rates  
17 established by law. Where county water or sewer service is to be provided to a property  
18 or improvement, payments for connection charges will not be accepted or credited and  
19 building permits will not be approved by the county until water and/or sewer facilities are  
20 constructed, tested and made operational and have physically benefited the property to  
21 which the building permit applies. Where a developer or property owner requests the  
22 county to approve a building permit prior to compliance with the above requirements, the  
23 county may approve the building permit upon the following conditions:

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**As Amended**

1 (2) PROPERTY THAT IS THE SITE OF A FIRE STATION OR  
2 SUBSTATION AND IS LEASED FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BY A  
3 VOLUNTEER FIRE OR AMBULANCE COMPANY; AND

4 (3) PROPERTY THAT HAS BEEN APPROVED AS THE SITE OF  
5 A FUTURE FIRE STATION OR SUBSTATION BY THE HARFORD COUNTY FIRE  
6 AND AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION AND IS OWNED BY A VOLUNTEER FIRE  
7 OR AMBULANCE COMPANY

8 Article V. Capital Charges.

9 Section 256-44. Connection charges.

10 A. Within the Harford County Sanitary District, with the exception of the subdistricts  
11 and municipalities therein ~~AND PROPERTY THAT SERVES AS THE SITE OF A~~  
12 ~~FIRE STATION OR SUBSTATION AND IS OWNED BY A HARFORD COUNTY~~  
13 ~~VOLUNTEER FIRE AND AMBULANCE COMPANY~~, there is hereby established a  
14 connection charge that shall be paid by all persons, firms and/or corporations who are  
15 required to pay a charge in accordance with the provisions established by law. The charge  
16 shall be graduated at a scale of [four hundred fifty dollars (\$450.)] \$450 for sewerage  
17 connections and [six hundred fifty dollars (\$650.)] \$650 for water connections based  
18 upon peak demands of gallons per minute, number of fixture units served at peak  
19 demands, the ratio of peak demand to [thirty (30)] 30 fixture units (as base figure) and the  
20 size of the meter:

21 (1) Meter sizes shall be based upon the American Waterworks Association maximum  
22 safe operating capacities with a normal pressure entering the meter.

1 (1) The developer or property owner shall post a bond, irrevocable letter of credit or  
2 other security acceptable to the Treasurer and County Attorney, in the amount of [one  
3 hundred percent (100%)] 100% of the estimated cost of construction and area connection  
4 and meter charges as determined by the county, guaranteeing the completion of the  
5 construction of the water and/or sewer facilities required to provide services to the  
6 improvements to which the building permit applies. The Department of Public Works  
7 shall promulgate rules and regulations to facilitate implementation of this section  
8 pursuant to Section 807 of the Harford County Charter.

9 (2) In the event that the developer fails to complete construction of the requisite water  
10 and/or sewer facilities within [two (2)] 2 years of the date of issuance of the building  
11 permit, all securities posted are subject to forfeiture.

12 SECTION 256-12.1 CAPITAL CHARGES FOR FIRE STATIONS OR  
13 SUBSTATIONS.

14 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY LANGUAGE IN THIS CHAPTER TO THE  
15 CONTRARY, ANY CAPITAL CHARGES FOR WATER AND/OR SEWER SERVICE  
16 FOR THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES THAT ARE DUE AT THE TIME OF  
17 CONNECTION, INCLUDING ONE-TIME CONNECTION CHARGES,  
18 SURCHARGES AND RECOUPMENT CHARGES, SHALL BE PAID BY THE  
19 COUNTY TO THE WATER AND SEWER FUND AND SHALL NOT BE CHARGED  
20 TO THE PROPERTY OWNER:

21 (1) PROPERTY THAT IS THE SITE OF A FIRE STATION OR  
22 SUBSTATION AND IS OWNED BY A VOLUNTEER FIRE OR AMBULANCE  
23 COMPANY; AND

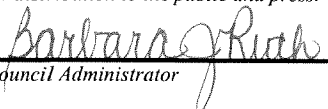
1 (2) Peak instantaneous demand shall be based upon diversity curves for gallons per  
2 minute versus fixture units established by American Standards, National Plumbing Code,  
3 American Society of Mechanical Engineers (1955 Edition). Values beyond [five hundred  
4 (500)] 500 gallons per minute shall be obtained by geometric extension.

5 (3) Utilization of schedule. A specific connection rate shall be determined for a  
6 customer by establishing the customers peak demand in terms of gallons per minute or  
7 the fixture unit count served at peak demand, by taking that information and locating the  
8 appropriate corresponding numbers on the schedule (the next higher number shall be used  
9 if the customer's number is not listed) and following the schedule line for the listed area  
10 connection rate.

11 Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted, That This Act shall take effect 60 calendar days  
12 from the date it becomes law.

EFFECTIVE: May 10, 2004

*The Council Administrator does hereby certify that  
fifteen (15) copies of this Bill are immediately available  
for distribution to the public and press.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Administrator

**BILL NO. 04-03**  
**As Amended**

HARFORD COUNTY BILL NO. 04-03 As Amended

Brief Title Water and Sewer Connection Charges

is herewith submitted to the County Council of Harford County for enrollment as being the text as finally passed.

**CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT**

Barbara J. Ruth / MKH  
Council Administrator

Date March 2, 2004

**ENROLLED**

Robert S. Hagner  
Council President

Date March 2, 2004

**BY THE COUNCIL**

Read the third time.

Passed: LSD 04-08

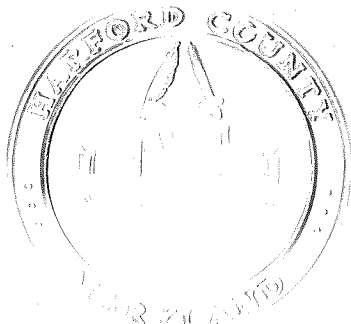
Failed of Passage: \_\_\_\_\_

By Order

Barbara J. Ruth / MKH  
Council Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2004 at 3:00 p.m.

Barbara J. Ruth / MKH  
Council Administrator



**BY THE EXECUTIVE**

James M. Harkins  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: Date March 9, 2004

**BY THE COUNCIL**

This Bill No. 04-03 As Amended, having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, becomes law on March 9, 2004.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 10, 2004

Barbara J. Ruth  
Barbara J. Ruth, Council Administrator

**BILL NO. 04-03**  
**As Amended**